

81. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein said altering comprises actuating a servo mechanism disposed to alter a position of said probe substrate with respect to said probe card.

82. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein said altering comprises actuating a piezoelectric actuator disposed to alter a position of said probe substrate with respect to said probe card.

B1 conc 83. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein said probe substrate comprises a space transformer.

84. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein said probe elements comprise a core of a first material and a coating of a second material, wherein said second material is more resilient than said first material.

85. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein said aligning comprises aligning said tips with an alignment plate.

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants cancel claim 1 and add new claims 43-85. Applicants previously canceled claims 2-42. Consequently, claims 43-85 are now pending in the application. No new matter has been added, and the new claims are fully supported by the original disclosure. Applicants respectfully assert that the new claims are in condition for allowance and ask for an early notice of allowability.

Respectfully submitted,

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